

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1856
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INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 4 KUALA LUMPUR 0531

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

LONDON FOR CODEL WOLFF

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OREP (WOLFF, LESTER), PPER, PINS, EINV, ETRD
SUBJ: CODEL WOLFF VISIT TO MALAYSIA, JAN 15-17, 1978

REF : A) KUALA LUMPUR 0423, B) KUALA LUMPUR 0425

1. SUMMARY AND INTRODUCTION. THE VISIT TO MALAYSIA
OF A LARGE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION HEADED BY RE-
PRESENTATIVE LESTER WOLFF, CHAIRMAN OF THE HIRC
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS AS WELL AS
OF THE HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON NARCOTICS ABUSE AND
CONTROL, AFFORDED AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY FOR
HIGH LEVEL CONTACTS WITH THE GOM TO DISCUSS A
WIDE RANGE OF IMPORTANT TOPICS. THE DISCUSSIONS
WERE DIRECT, FRANK, AND WE BELIEVE MUTUALLY
BENEFICIAL IN INCREASING EACH SIDE'S AWARENESS OF

THE OTHER'S POSITIONS ON KEY ISSUES. THE VISIT ALSO PROVIDED A CONCRETE MANIFESTATION OF CONTINUING AMERICAN INTEREST IN THIS REGION. THE MALAYSIANS ON THEIR PART MADE A SPECIAL EFFORT TO ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET FOR THEIR GUESTS, THE LARGEST AND MOST INFLUENTIAL CONGRESSIONAL GROUP TO COME THIS WAY IN RECENT MEMORY. IN AN ADDRESS TO A WORKING LUNCHEON HE HOSTED IN THE DELETATIONS'S HONOR JAN 16, PRIME MINISTER HUSSEIN ONN STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE, IN MALAYSIA'S EYES, OF A CONTINUED US PRESENCE IN THE REGION, ON THE GROUNDS THAT "WE MAY HAVE TO CALL ON YOU (THE US) IN OUR HOUR OF NEED." THE PM ALSO PRIVATELY REASSURED CHAIRMAN WOLFF THAT MALAYSIA WOULD CONTINUE A HUMANITARIAN POLICY OF ALLOWING TEMPORARY REFUGE TO INDOCHINESE REFUGEES WHO REACH ITS SHORES. WHILE FOREIGN MINISTER RITHAUDDEEN PLACED PARTICULAR STRESS ON THE IMPORTANCE MALAYSIA ATTACHES TO THE SEA "ZONE OF PEACE, FREEDOM AND NEUTRALITY" ("ZOPFAN") PROPOSAL, HE AND OTHER SENIOR MALAYSIAN OFFICIALS TOOK CARE TO POINT OUT THAT THIS IS A LONG TERM OBJECTIVE AND THEY DO NOT WISH TO SEE PRECIPITATE WITHDRAWAL OF FORCES OR CASING OUT OF BASES THAT WOULD UPSET THE CURRENT "EQUILIBRIUM" IN THE REGION. IN ADDITION TO THESE TOPICS NARCOTICS MATTERS (BEING REPORTED SEPTTEL) ALSO

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FIGURED PROMINENTLY IN CODEL MEETINGS WITH GOM OFFICIALS. END SUMMARY/INTRODUCTION.

2. CODEL PROGRAM. CODEL WOLFFF, COMPRISING 11 CONGRESSMEN (6 DEMOCRATS, 5 REPUBLICANS), TWO ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS REPRESENTING WHITE HOUSE AND STATE DEPARTMENT, 11 SPOUSES OF THE FOREGOING, 6 CONGRESSIONAL STAFF MEMBERS AND 6 OTHER STAFFERS, ARRIVED IN KUALA LUMPUR LATE MORNING SUNDAY, 15 JAN. OFFICIAL PROGRAM THAT DAY WAS LIMITED TO INFORMAL NOON BRIEFING AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE AND EVENING DINNER RECEPTION HOSTED BY PRESIDENT OF MALAYSIAN SENATE, EX-AMBASSADOR TO US TAN SRI OMAR YOKE LIN ONG. LATTER FUNCTION KEYNOTED VISIT BY ITS WARMTH AND INFORMALITY AND AFFORDED CODEL MEMBERS AN OCCASION TO MINGLE WITH SENIOR GOM OFFICIALS, INCLUDING CABINET MINISTERS, AS WELL AS FELLOW PARLIAMENTARIANS. MONDAY, JAN 16, WAS A FULL WORKING DAY, STARTING WITH BREAKFAST HOSTED BY LOCAL AMERICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL AND FOLLOWED BY BRIEFING ON REGIONAL AND INTERNAL SECURITY SITUATION BY HOME AFFAIRS MINISTER TAN

SRI GHAZALI SHAFIE. CODEL THEN MET WITH FOREIGN
MINISTER TENGKU DATUK AHMAD RITHAUDDEEN AND SENIOR
MFA OFFICIALS FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WHICH
FOCUSED ON REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS AND THE ROLE
OF THE US IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. THAT AFTERNOON
THE PM HOSTED WORKING LUNCHEON FOR CODEL AND CON-
GRESSIONAL STAFF, FOLLOWING WHICH CODEL DIVIDED
INTO TWO GROUPS, ONE ATTENDING AN ECONOMIC DEVELOP-
MENT BRIEFING AT THE ECONOMIC PLANNING UNIT (EPU)
OF THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT, THE OTHER
ATTENDING SUCCESSIVE BRIEFINGS ON THE MALAYSIAN
NARCOTICS SITUATION AT THE CENTRAL NARCOTICS
BUREAU (CNB) AND PEMANDAM (THE PRIVATE, GOM
SPONSORED, NATIONAL ORGANIZATION AGAINST DRUG
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ABUSE). CODEL SPOUSES ATTENDED A
LATE AFTERNOON TEA AT THE RESIDENCE TO INTRODUCE
THEM TO REPRESENTATIVES OF MALAYSIAN WOMEN'S
ORGANIZATIONS, WIVES OF SENIOR GOM OFFICIALS, AND
OTHER WOMEN HOLDING LEADERSHIP
POSITIONS IN LOCAL COMMUNITY. CODEL HELD A PRE-
DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE AT THE AIRPORT ON

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 4 KUALA LUMPUR 0531

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (CORRECTION IN PARA 5 OF TEXT)

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

LONDON FOR CODEL WOLFF

TUESDAY MORNING, JAN 17, BEFORE EMBARKING FOR BANGKOK. HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS FOLLOW (AS NOTED, DISCUSSIONSON NARCOTICS ARE BEING REPORTED SEPTTEL).

3. MEETING WITH AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN. THE
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AMERICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL, WHICH HAS JUST RECEIVED GOM APPROVAL, HELD ITS FIRST OFFICIAL FUNCTION BY HOSTING THE CONGRESSIONAL PARTY AT A BREAKFAST MEETING. SPEAKERS FROM BUSINESS COMMUNITY DISCUSSED ROLE OF AMERICAN BUSINESS COUNCIL, AMERICAN INVESTMENT IN MALAYSIA, U.S. BUSINESS VIEWS TOWARDS ASEAN AND U.S. TAXES ON AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN ABROAD. REPRESENTATIVE WOLFF RESPONDED ON BEHALF OF HIS COLLEAGUES. REPRESENTATIVE RANGEL DISCUSSED THE TAX ISSUE AND REPRESENTATIVE GUYER MADE A FEW REMARKS WITH REGARD TO WORLD NEEDS. PARTICIPANTS FROM BOTH THE CODEL AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT THE MEETING.

4. HOME MINISTER'S SECURITY BRIEFING. HOME MINISTER GHAZALI SHAFIE STRESSED THE COMMONALITY OF INTERESTS BETWEEN THE US AND MALAYSIA, NOTING THAT ALTHOUGH THE US HAS TRADITIONALLY CONSIDERED MALAYSIA AS BEING "OUTSIDE ITS AREA" THE US "CANNOT FIND A BETTER FRIEND THAT MALAYSIA IN TERMS OF VALUES AND OUTLOOK." HE CONVEYED THE IMPRESSION OF THE GOM FOLLOWING A DEFINITE ANTI-COMMUNIST POLICY IN DEALING FIRMLY AND EFFECTIVELY WITH ITS INTERNAL "COMMUNIST TERRORIST" PROBLEM. HE STATED THAT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE

OF MATERIAL ASSISTANCE OT LOCAL ARMED COMMUNITIS.
HOWEVER, RE THE CURRENT CAMBODIA/SRV CONFLICT
GHAZALI CLAIMED THIS IS NOT CAUSE FORJUBILITATION,
SINCE AT PRESENT THE PRC PERCEIVES CAMBODIA AS
A COUNTERPOINT TO SOVIET INFLUENCE IN LAOS AND
THE SRV. IF THE PRC SEES ITS POSITION HTER BEING
ERODED IT MAY INTENSIFY ITS ACTIVITIES OUTSIDE
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CAMBODIA AND SEEK TO FURTHER ITS INFLUENCE VIA
COMMUNIST MOVEMENTS ELSEWHERE IN THE REGION.
THAILAND IS PARTICULARLY VULNERABLE IN THIS REGARD.

5. GHAZALI URGED US UNDERSTANDING AND SYMPATHY FOR THE
PROBLEMS THAILAND AND INDONESIA FACE. ALTHOUGH
SOME CRITICIZE DEALINGS WITH ALLEGEDLY DESPOTIC
REGIMES, SUPPORT FROM OTHER COUNTRIES IS NECESSARY
TO ALLOW TIME FOR CREATION OF SUFFICIENT "NATIONAL
RESILIENCE" AND STABILITY TO PERMIT THE EVELUTION
OF PARLIAMENTARY PROCESSES, HE INDICATED. HE
ASKED RHETORICALLY: " IT IS A HISTORICAL TRUTH
THAT EVEN A DESPOT CAN BECOME DEMOCRATIC,BUT
WHEN DID A COMMUNIST COUNTRY BECOME DEMOCRATIC?"
GHAZALI THEN REVIEWED THE CLOSE SECURITY COOPERATION
MALAYSIA HAS WITH ALL OF ITS NEIGHBORS, INTER-
ESTINGLY MAKING ONLY THE BRIEFEST OF REFERENCES
TO THE PHILIPPINES, AND THEN ONLY IN THE CONTEXT
OF SOME MINOR INTELLIGENCE LIAISON. ON "ZOPFAN"
HE SAID THAT ITS "REAL TARGET IS CHINA AND RUSSIA*"

6. IN RESPONDING TO THE HOME MINISTER'S BRIEFING,
CHAIRMA WOLFF SAID THAT WHILE WELCOMING THE
FORMER'S "EXTREMELY LUCID AND REALISTIC"REMARKS
HE WISHED TO CALL ATTENTION TO SOME "ANOMALIES."
HE NOTED US DISAPPOINTMENT THAT MALAYSIA HAD
SUPPORTED RESOLUTIONS ON GUAM. WE FEEL THAT US
BASES ON GUAM, AS WELL AS IN THE PHILIPPINES,
CONTRIBUTE TO REGIONAL STABILITY, HE REMARKED.
SUCH INCONSISTENCIES BETWEEN PRIVATE UTTERANCES
AND PUBLICLY STATED POSITIONS MAKE IT DIFFICULT
TO EXPLAIN WHY WE SHOULD REMAIN INVOLVED IN THE
REGION. GHAZALI REPLIED THAT MALAYSIA IS VERY
FAVORABLY DISPOESED TO THE US, AND THAT ADDITIONAL
CONTACTS, ALONG LINES OF CODEL VISIT, SHOULD
TAKE PLACE. PERHAPS AN ASEAN DELEGATIN SHOULD
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BE SENT TO WASHINGTON TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON SUCH ISSUES, HE ADDED. CHAIRMAN WOLFF THEN OUTLINED HIS PROPOSAL FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ASIAN-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY THAT WOULD SERVE TO FURTHER SUCH EXCHANGES. HE ALSO MENTIONED THAT TIMOR REMAINS A MATTER OF INTEREST IN THE US CONGRESS (GHAZALI HAD MENTIONED EARLIER THAT INDONESIA HAD FEARED TIMOR MIGHT BECOME "ANOTHER CUBA"). FINALLY, CHAIRMAN WOLFF EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT TRAFFICKING IN NARCOTIS ORIGINATING IN BURMA. GHAZALI REPLIED THAT HE SHARED THIS CONCERN, INDICATING HE SAW NO IMMEDIATE SOLUTIONS AS BURMA WAS REAPING THE RESULTS OF POLICIES SET BY NEW WIN TEN YEARS AGO.

7. MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER. TENGKU RITHAUDDEEN EXPLAINED THAT MALAYSIA PERCEIVED THE USE ADOPTING A "RATHER CAUTIOUS AND RESERVED VIEW" OF SOUTHEAST ASIA AS A RESULT OF THE TERMINATION OF THE VIETNAM WAR AND CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURES. HE STATED THAT MALAYSIA WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE US ROLE MORE IN THE ECONOMIC FIELD, AND WELOCMED THE DIALOGUES NOW UNDERWAY IN THE ASEAN CONTEXT WITH JAPAN, THE US, AND OTHER EXTRA-REGIONAL COUNTRIES. HE WENT ON TO NOTE THAT MALAYSIA SOUGHT, IN DEALING WITH ITS INSURGENCY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 3 OF 4 KUALA LUMPUR 0531

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

LONDON FOR CODEL WOLFF

PROBLEM, TO PREVENT IT FROM BEING "EXTERNALIZED"
AND RECEIVING SUPPORT FROM OUTSIDE. THIS UNDER-
LIES MALAYSIA' ATTEMPTS TO COEXIST WITH THE
INDOCHINESE COMMUNIST STATES, WITH WHOM IT HAS
SOUGHT TO ENGAGE IN A DIALOGUE TO MAINTAIN THE
STATUS QUO AND PRESERVE EQUILIBRIUM IN THE AREA,
HE EXPLAINED. TENGKU RITHAUDDEEN CITED MALAYSIA'S
UNDERTAKING TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO
THE REHABILITATION OF THE SRV'S NATURAL RUBBER
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INDUSTRY AS A CONCRETE DEVELOPMENT IN THIS DIALOGUE.
ON THE CAMBODIA/SRV CONFLICT, RITHAUDDEEN INDI-
CATED HE HAD HEARD BOTH SIDES POINTS OF VIEW.
THE GOM HOPES THIS PROBLEM CAN BE SOLVED PEACEFULLY;
OTHERWISE THERE IS THE DANGER OF PROVOKING
"THE PEOPLE WHO ARE BEHIND THEM" (E.G., USSR
AND PRC). "CAMBODIA IS NOT PREPARED TO JOIN
LAOS AND THE SRV IN A FEDERATION. WE REGARD
ANY TENDECNY TO GO BEYOND ONE'S TERRITORY AS
DESTABILIZING."

8. ON THE INDIAN OCEAN, THE FOREIGN MINISTER
SAID THAT THE GOM FAVORED A SITUATION CHARACTERIZED
BY INDEPENDENCE OF THE COUNTRIES OF THE REGION
AND WHEREIN THE BALANCE OF POWER IS WELL MAINTAINED.
THE SAME PERTAINS FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA. THE GOM
WELCOMES THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE US AND
THE USSR, "IF POSSIBLE TO REDUCE THEIR PRESENCE
IN THE INDIAN OCEAN." HE ADDED THAT THE UNDERLYING
OBJECTIVE OF ZOPFAN IS TO SEEK TO RESTRAIN GREAT
POWER RIVALRY IN THE REGION, BUT THE ASEAN
STATES ARE PREPARED TO BE PATIENT ON THIS, WITH
FOREIGN BASES IN THE REGION TO BE PHASED OUT OVER
TIME IN AN ORDERLY MANNER THAT AVOIDS UPSETTING
THE REGIONAL POWER EQUILIBRIUM.

9. RITHAUDDEEN EXPLAINED THAT THE GOM WELCOMED SECRETARY VANCE'S ASIA SOCIETY SPEECH, AS WELL AS THE REFERENCES TO SOUTHEAST ASIA AND ASEAN IN THE FUKUDA-CARTER COMMUNIQUE. ON ECONOMIC MATTERS, MALAYSIA SEEKS MORE US INVESTMENT IN THE REGION AND HOPES THAT TAX QUESTIONS AFFECTING BUSINESSMEN OVERSEAS CAN BE RESOLVED. CONFIDENTIAL

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MALAYSIA IS ALSO INTERESTED IN THE SUBJECT OF GSP CONCESSIONS AND HOPES THAT THE US CAN BE POSITIVE ON COMMODITY MATTERS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE, WHICH MALAYSIA HOPES CAN SHORTLY BE RESUMED.

10. CHAIRMAN WOLFF RESPONDED THAT THE US FAVORS PEACE BUT US RECOGNITION ALONE OF THE ZONE OF PEACE CONCEPT IS NOT SUFFICIENT; OTHERS LIKEWISE MUST GO ALONG. HE ALSO CITED THE SEEMING INCONSISTENCY OF COUNTRIES WANTING AN OVERALL US SECURITY UMBRELLA WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY WANTING US TO STAY OUT OF THE REGION. THIS HAS BEEN HIGHLIGHTED BY UN RESOLUTIONS ON GUAM. CHAIRMAN WOLFF ALSO REFERED TO THIS PROPOSAL FOR FORMATION OF AN ASIAN AND PACIFIC PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY. FINALLY, HE EXPRESSED GRATITUDE ON BEHALF OF THE US FOR MALAYSIA'S HUMANITARIAN APPROACH ON OFFERING TEMPORARY REFUGE TO INDO-CHINESE REFUGEES. RITHAUDDEEN REPLIED THAT MALAYSIA WOULD CONTINUE TO DO WHAT IT CAN TO HELP. HE TRIED TO CLARIFY THE GOM'S VIEW ON ZOPFAN BY NOTING THAT WHAT IS SOUGHT IS SCHEDULED WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES FROM THE REGION, THAT THIS SHOULD BE ORDERLY AND PHASED, AND THAT THE GOM FEELS NO SENSE OF URGENCY IN THIS REGARD.

11. PRIME MINISTER'S ADDRESS. IN HIS WORKING LUNCHEON ADDRESS (FULL TEXT, AS RELEASED LOCALLY, REPORTED KUALA LUMPUR 0423) WELCOMED CODEL VISIT, STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF REGION AND ASEAN FROM GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE, HIGHLIGHTED MALAYSIA'S CONCERNS IN DOMESTIC POLITICAL, SECURITY AND ECONOMIC AREAS AND EMPHASIZED THAT MALAYSIA SEEKS INCREASED US INVESTMENT. WHAT WAS STRIKINGLY ABSENT HOWEVER FROM PRINTED VERSION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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ADDRESS WAS HIS REFERENCE TO MALAYSIA'S FAVORING
CONTINUED US PRESENCE IN THE AREA ON THE GROUNDS
THAT "WE MAY HAVE TO CALL ON YOU (THE US) IN
OUR HOUR OF NEED." WHEN CHAIRMAN WOLFF, SEATED
TO HIS RIGHT, RAISED THE ISSUE OF REFUGEES,
HUSSEIN REASSURED HIM THAT MALAYSIA WOULD
CONTINUE TO FOLLOW A HUMANITARIAN POLICY OF AL-
LOWING TEMPORARY REFUGE TO INDOCHINESE REFUGEES
WHO REACH ITS SHORES.

12. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BRIEFING. THE AFTERNOON
BRIEFING AT THE ECONOMIC PLANNING UNIT (EPU) OF
THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE GENERATED ONE OF THE
SHARPEST EXCHANGES OF THE CODEL'S VISIT. FOLLOWING
A STANDARD ECONOMIC BRIEFING CHAIRED BY RICHARD HO,
THE NEWLY APPOINTED MINSITER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO
IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT, BOTH REPRESENTATIVE
JENRETTE (WHO WAS ACTING HEAD OF
THE DELEGATION AT THE BRIEFING) AND REPRESENTATIVE
MYERS SHARPLY CHALLENGED THE MALAYSIANS ON THEIR
PLANS FOR EXPANSION OF PALM OIL PRODUCTION.
REPRESENTATIVE JENRETE POINTED OUT THAT
IT WAS DIFFICULT FOR HIM TO SUPPORT US CONTRIBUTIONS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 4 B 4 KUALA LUMPUR 0531

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

LONDON FOR CODEL WOLFF

TO THE IBRD AND THE ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK IF THESE ORGANIZATIONS CONTINUE TO GRANT LOANS FOR PALM OIL PROJECTS. HE FOLLOWED UP BY SOLICITING THE ADVICE OF THE MALAYSIANS THERE PRESENT AS TO WHAT HE MIGHT TELL HIS CONSTITUANTS WHEN THEY RAISED THIS ISSUE. FOLLOWING A SHOCKED SILENCE, TAN SRI THONG YAW HONG, EUP'S DIRECTOR GENERAL EMOTIONALLY REPLIED "DO YOU WANT MALAYSIA TO GO COMMUNIST?" HE WENT ON TO EXPLAIN THAT THE GOM
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IS CONCERNED OVER LEVELS OF RURAL INCOME AND THE NECESSITY TO RAISE THEM SO THAT THE COMMUNISTS CANNOT GAIN A Foothold IN THIS CRUCIAL SECTOR. (COMMENT: GOM OFFICIALS ARE RARELY QUESTIONED IN PUBLIC, ESPECIALLY BEFORE THEIR SUBORDINATES AND ESPECIALLY BY FOREIGN GUESTS. THON NO DOUBT OVERREACTED BUT HE WAS EXPRESSING, NO MATTER HOW SIMPLISTICALLY, A REAL CONCERN ON PART OF GOM. EMBASSY FEELS THAT REPRESENTATIVES' QUESTIONS SERVED USEFUL PURPOSE IN DEMONSTRATING TO GOM OFFICIALS DEPTH OF POLITICAL PRESSURES PALM OIL QUESTION GENERATES IN US AGRICULTURAL CIRCLES.)

13. PRE-DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE. THE FULL TEXT OF CODEL WOLFF'S AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE JAN 17 FWAS TRANSMITTED VIA KUALA LUMPUR 0425. PRESS REPORTS HGIHLIGHTED CHAIRMAN WOLFF'S REMARKS THAT THE US DID NOT FAVOR PROTECTIONISM BUT SIMILARLYLY OPPOSED DUMPING PRACTICES OF SOME COUHTRIES.

14. PRESS COVERAGE. IN RECENT MEMORY THERE HAS NOT BEEN AN AMERICAN CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO MALAYSIA OF THE SIZE AND IMPORTANCE OF CODEL WOLFF AND THE MALAYSIAN MEDIA RESPONED IN KIND. IN SPITE OF EFFORTS TO DISSUADE PRESS FROM COMING TO THE AIRPORT JAN 15, PLUS PER CODEL'S SPECIFIC REQUEST NOT TO DIVULGE THE ARRIVAL TIME APPROXIMATELY 12 MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND RADIO

WERE ON HAND. CHAIRMAN WOLFF CONSENTED TO MEET WITH THEM AND EXPAND ON A USIS PRESS RELEASE (BASED ON CANBERRA 0208, NOTAL) THAT WAS DISTRIBUTED UPON THEIR ARRIVAL. THIS IMPROMPTU PRESS CONFERENCE RESULTED IN STORIES
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AND PHOTOS IN NINE OF KUALA LUMPUR'S DAILY PAPERS INCLUDING CHINESE AND MALAY LANGUAGES AS WELL AS THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS.

15. THE FOLLOWING DAY, MONDAY JAN 16, CODEL WOLFF'S ACTIVITIES WERE EXTENSIVELY COVERED FROM THEIR FIRST MEETING WITH THE HOME MINISTER, THROUGH CALLS AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE, LUNCH WITH THE PRIME MINISTER AND THEIR AFTERNOON CALLS. RADIO-TV MALAYSIA (RTM) CARRIED TELEVISION FOOTAGE THREE SEPARATE TIMES MONDAY NIGHT. THE TUESDAY MORNING PAPERS ALL FEATURED CODEL WOLFF, MOST OF THEM FRONTPAGE STORIES, AND THE AIRPORT PRESS CONFERENCE WAS WELL ATTENDED AND COVERED BY BOTH RADIO AND TELEVISION MALAYSIA. ADDITIONAL FOOTAGE WAS CARRIED OVER RTM TUESDAY NIGHT. IN ADDITION, BERNAMA THE NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY, CARRIED LENGTHY PIECES THREE DAYS RUNNING AND ASSOCIATED PRESS FILED TWO LONG STORIES TO THEIR OVERSEAS CLIENTS.
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3735207
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CODEL WOLFF VISIT TO MALAYSIA, JAN 15-17, 1978
TAGS: OREP, PEPR, PINS, EINV, ETRD, (WOLFF, LESTER L)
To: STATE LONDON
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Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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